

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 In accordance with a handoff method, when a handoff
of mobile terminal equipment from a previous foreign agent
to a new foreign agent is detected, the mobile terminal
equipment is doubly registered with either a home agent or
a gateway foreign agent so that the mobile terminal
equipment is associated with both the previous foreign
agent and the new foreign agent. During the handoff,
either the home agent or the gateway foreign agent
10 determines whether or not an IP packet destined for the
mobile terminal equipment is of real-time traffic, and then
bicasts the IP packet to both the previous foreign agent
and the new foreign agent if the IP packet is of real-time
traffic, and buffers the IP packet otherwise. When the
15 handoff is completed, the regional registration with either
the home agent or the gateway foreign agent is updated so
that the mobile terminal equipment is associated only with
the new foreign agent. Either the home agent or the
gateway foreign agent then transfers IP packets of non-
20 real-time traffic buffered therein to the new foreign
agent.

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